

Acharei Mot–Kedoshim: Holiness Is Plural

Parshat Kedoshim begins with what is arguably the most far-reaching directive in the entire Torah:

“Speak to the whole Israelite community and say to them: You shall be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.” (Leviticus 19:2)

What is said, profound though it be, is not nearly as impressive as to whom: *kol adat b'nei Yisrael*, “the whole Israelite community.” Rashi comments that these words (and the many more to follow) were proclaimed to the people while gathered “in full assembly.” Not one—from the youngest child to the most senior elder, from the widows and orphans to the tribal princes—was left out. Holiness is all-inclusive.

But it goes beyond inclusivity. The *Sefat Emet* (Rabbi Yehuda Leib Alter) explains that holiness emerges in community. We sanctify ourselves as individuals insofar as we identify ourselves with the Jewish people. *Kedoshim tihyu*, “You shall be holy,” is phrased in the plural for a reason: only in “full assembly” can we be holy.

Even a cursory glance at the rest of the portion reveals this mutuality. Commandment after commandment enjoins us to identify closer and closer with the other: care for the poor and the stranger; do not take advantage of the vulnerable; judge your kindred fairly; do not hate your brother; love your neighbor as yourself. Contrary to a holiness of separation, the core of *kedusha* is unity.

As Jews near and far, Left and Right, old and new gather together on Shabbat morning to pray, learn, and be as one, we might well ask the question: what could be holier than this?

Shabbat Shalom.
Rabbi Moe Howard



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Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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Rabbinic Intern

Special thanks to the staff and lay leaders who make Shabbat services exceptional:

- Jessica Green - Executive Director
- Jay Harwitt - Ritual Director
- Benjamin Fingerhut - Musical Director
- Cantor Keith Miller - Cantorial Support & B'nai Mitzvah Mentor
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Mehrzad Roshan, Sinai Temple President



MISSION STATEMENT

Sinai Temple is dedicated to providing a welcoming and caring community for its members, devoted to Jewish learning and support for Israel and the Jewish people, and committed to improving ourselves and the world through a growing relationship with God from generation to generation. We are committed to the principles and values of Conservative Judaism and we welcome Jews of all backgrounds and affiliations to observe life cycle events, and pursue our mission through prayer, rituals, learning, music and the other gifts God has given us.

MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT

in Kohn Chapel
Every Friday at 5:45 PM
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

DAILY MINYAN

in Kohn Chapel
Monday–Friday at 7:30 a.m.
Sunday morning at 8:30 am
Sunday-Friday evenings at 5:45 pm
Saturday evenings 9:00 p.m. (online only)
Please consult the website for holiday locations and times.



SINAI TEMPLE

8 IYAR 5786 | 25 APRIL 2026



PARASHOT ACHAREI MOT-KEDOSHIM | אַחֲרֵי מוֹת--קִדְשִׁים
THE B'NAI MITZVAH OF MAX DANESHVAR AND NICOLE PARTIELLI
Torah reading begins: Leviticus 16:1 (page 679)
Maftir: Leviticus 17:5-7 (page 686)
Haftarah: Amos 9:7-15 (page 706)
Sermon given by Rabbi Nicole Guzik
Shabbat Speaker: Behnam Ben Taleblu, Senior Director of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) Iran Program

SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.
The Bar Mitzvah of Max Daneshvar
The Bat Mitzvah of Nicole Partielli
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

TORAH AT THE TABLE

in Blumenthal Library Classroom at 9:00 a.m.

TOT SHABBAT

in Weinberg Gym at 10:15 a.m.

Honor or remember someone special with a meaningful gift to Sinai Temple. Scan this QR code to make a contribution in their name and create a lasting tribute.



Find us on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents



TEMPLE EVENTS

Learning with Rabbi David Wolpe

This Thursday, April 30, 2026 | 7:00 PM

This class will trace the wisdom, texts, and teachings that have guided Jewish life, from ancient foundations to medieval depth and modern relevance.

Feit Family Live Community Shabbat Dinner

This Friday, May 1, 2026 | 6:30 PM

Join us at Sinai Temple for a warm and welcoming Shabbat evening featuring services at 5:45 pm followed by a delicious dinner from Western Kosher at 6:30 pm. Enjoy engaging children's entertainment, great food, and meaningful community connection. \$18 per child and \$25 per adult.

Mitzvah Day & Beyond at Sinai Temple

Next Sunday, May 3, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Join Sinai Temple for a day of giving back and community connection, featuring hands-on service projects supporting organizations in Los Angeles and Israel alongside STARS Religious School student-led Israeli-style shuk.

All proceeds benefit Israel & STARS!

Personal Safety and Violence Prevention

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join us for an important and empowering evening with safety expert Barb Jordan, who will share practical tools for situational awareness, personal safety, and violence prevention. This free program is open to adults 18+ and will provide real-world strategies to help you stay aware, prepared, and confident in everyday situations.

Etgarim: Stories of Resilience and Hope

Saturday, May 9, 2026 | 12:00 PM

Join us for an inspiring conversation with Etgarim, an organization that empowers individuals with physical and emotional challenges through adaptive sports and community. Through the personal journeys of Oran Almog, David Idelson, and Nir Hacoheh, hear powerful stories of resilience, recovery, and leadership.

Feit Family Live Generations Shabbat

Saturday, May 16, 2026 | 10:45 AM

Come join us for a special Shabbat lunch following services at Sinai Temple where we bring together all generations for a delicious meal and meaningful conversations. Please bring a photo album to share during lunch as we reminisce and connect through cherished memories.

Sinai Temple 2026 Annual Gala:

An Evening Honoring Mehrzad Roshan

Join Sinai Temple on May 17th for the 2026 Annual Gala, an elegant evening honoring Mehrzad Roshan with a special legacy award presented to Dr. Arnold and Gloria Lushing Gilberg, celebrating the community's continued vision and leadership.

Guests will enjoy a memorable night while supporting Sinai Temple's mission. Sponsorship opportunities, digital journal tributes, and individual dinner tickets are available. Please contact Jackie Ahdout at jahdout@sinaitemple.org or (310) 481-3225.

This event is expected to sell out quickly, and reservations are confirmed upon receipt of payment.

Reservation Deadline: Friday, May 8, 2026
To RSVP, please visit <https://www.sinaitemple.org/> or call (310) 481-3225.

Sinai Temple Sisterhood

Join Sinai Temple Sisterhood for a meaningful opportunity to connect, learn, and celebrate together.

On **Tuesday, May 5**, join **Sisterhood Book Group** as we come together for a thoughtful discussion of *Spinning Silver* by Naomi Novik.

This event offers a warm and welcoming space to build community and engage with one another.

For more information or registration, please visit sinaitemple.org/community/sisterhood/.

A Sisterhood Shabbat Celebration

Please join us on **Saturday, May 9** for a meaningful Shabbat service led entirely by Sisterhood and the women of our community. Taking place over Mother's Day Weekend, we encourage everyone to bring their mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends for connection, bonding, and blessings. A luncheon will follow the service.

Please refer to the flyers outside the sanctuary and on the Sinai Temple website for more information.

Scan the QR below.



WANT TO PLAN AN EVENT?

Host your next event at Sinai Temple, where exquisite catering meets a stunning setting to create unforgettable experiences. Let our expert caterers transform your special occasion into a celebration filled with flavor, elegance, and impeccable service. For more information, please contact Judy Begin at jbegin@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3222.

SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT



Honor a simcha or yahrzeit by sponsoring an oneg! Your sponsorship will be featured in the Shabbat bulletin and announced from the bimah on Shabbat.

To sponsor, contact Judy Begin at jbegin@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3222.



Scan the QR code to RSVP and to learn about more events.

For more information contact Amanda Harrison at aharrison@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3246